

# quarterly

2010.2

GREENPEACE



## Voyages of the *Rainbow Warrior*

Join us on the trip of a lifetime as we look back over 32 years of a legend

International

# quarterly 2010.2



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The first time I heard of Greenpeace was in 1985. My brother Kivin and I were at home in our township in South Africa listening to the transistor radio when the news reader announced that the *Rainbow Warrior* had been sunk in Auckland Harbour. Determined to stop Greenpeace from bearing witness to its nuclear testing in the South Pacific, the French government had deployed a secret service team to place two bombs on the ship, killing Greenpeace photographer Fernando Pereira.

Two things struck me at the time about the bombing: The first was that a democratic government like France could feel so intimidated by a small group of peaceful men and women that it would resort to violence; the second was that the crew of the *Rainbow Warrior* had put their lives on the line not for any personal gain, but simply for the greater good of our planet.

What the French government did not know or did not understand, is that the *Rainbow Warrior* is more than just a ship, it is an idea, a belief that a small number of people can make a difference. As one of our supporters in New Zealand put it at the time: "You can't sink a rainbow."

A few years later, after the bombing, Greenpeace purchased a used fishing trawler and converted her into a new *Rainbow Warrior*. In her two decades of service to the organisation, this ship has been involved in campaigns against whaling, toxic dumping, war, global warming, and other environmental crimes all around the world. She was also integral to work done by many of the crew of the original *Rainbow Warrior* in finally bringing an end to French nuclear testing in the 1990s. The second *Rainbow Warrior* is now 53 years old. After many years of solid campaigning, she is showing signs of wear and tear, and it is now time for her to be replaced.

Much has changed in the quarter century since I first heard about the *Rainbow Warrior* and Greenpeace. What has remained unchanged is the need to actually go where environmental crime is occurring, bear witness and take action. Greenpeace is the largest environmental non-profit organisation that actually goes to the scene of the crime and that's what makes our *Rainbow Warrior* so important. It allows us to take action.

Like many millions of people today I continue to think of the *Rainbow Warrior* as a symbol of hope, an icon for action and proof that if good men and women take a stand we can make a difference.

On 10 July 2010 – 25 years to the day that the first *Rainbow Warrior* was bombed – I attended the keel-laying ceremony for the new *Rainbow Warrior*. Our new ship will be completed by October 2011 and will be the most environmentally-friendly vessel ever used by Greenpeace.

At no time during Greenpeace's almost 40 year history has our planet been in as much danger as it is today. Our ancient forests are rapidly being chopped down and our oceans recklessly fished out and polluted. Our addiction to dirty fossil fuels continues to grow. Whaling, toxic pollution, dirty coal, dangerous nuclear energy, oil spills and genetically engineered crops threaten the quality and even sustainability of lives around the planet. I believe the *Rainbow Warrior* is needed now more than ever.



Kumi Naidoo  
International Executive Director

GREENPEACE

# 10 July 2010

Twenty-five years after two bombs planted by French secret agents sank the *Rainbow Warrior* in Auckland harbour, New Zealand - murdering photographer and father of two, Fernando Pereira - Greenpeace commemorated the anniversary by beginning the construction of a new, low-carbon *Rainbow Warrior*.



The keel-laying ceremony took place at the Maritim Shipyard in Gdansk, Poland. As part of the ceremony, Pete Willcox, who was the *Rainbow Warrior* captain on the night she was bombed, laid a wreath in memory of Fernando Pereira: "One of the principles of Greenpeace, one of the things that makes us so strong and special, is that we are non-violent. Fernando did not have to die; he was a threat to no one. We will never forget him. I hope the generations of activists who sail on the new ship will be as determined and as exceptional and as inspired as he was."

Since the original ship set sail in 1978 the *Rainbow Warrior* has been on the frontline of the struggle against environmental abuse. She is an icon of non-violent direct action and a beacon of hope for millions of people around the world.

Both the first and second *Rainbow Warriors* were converted trawling vessels. The new *Rainbow Warrior* will be the first purpose built ship in the Greenpeace fleet. When the original *Rainbow Warrior* was bombed the threat of nuclear war represented our worst nightmare, and concern over climate change was just beginning. Now, it is well understood that hundreds of thousands of people are already dying as a result of the impacts of climate change. The new *Rainbow Warrior* will play a vital role in our campaign for action to avert catastrophic climate change.

In this issue of *The Quarterly*, we celebrate the *Rainbow Warriors*, past, present and future. Join us as we hear about the ancient North American legend that inspired the name – and the ships' own adventures, accomplishments and experiences that have made the *Rainbow Warrior* a legend of the environmental movement.

Above: Kumi Naidoo, with Grace O'Sullivan, Pete Willcox and David Edward, crew members of the original *Rainbow Warrior*, and Lalita Ramdas, Greenpeace International's Board Chair. Grace and Pete hold the traditional piece of wood with a coin for the keel-laying ceremony of the new *Rainbow Warrior*.

**"Now more than ever the world needs hope, it needs action... it needs a *Rainbow Warrior*."**



# warriors of the rainbow how green



**Rex Weyler** was a director of the original Greenpeace Foundation, the editor of the organisation's first newsletter, and a co-founder of Greenpeace International in 1979. He was a photographer and reporter on the early Greenpeace whale and seal campaigns, and has written one of the best and most comprehensive histories of the organisation.



In the summer of 1969, a rusted, red pickup rattled up the driveway of Bob and Zoe Hunter's farmhouse, south of Vancouver, Canada. Bob Hunter, a newspaper columnist, sat on his front porch writing his first non-fiction book, *The Enemies of Anarchy*, about technological culture and Earth's degraded ecology. Hunter squinted at the pickup as it stopped in a stir of dust. A wild-looking hippie, with long blond hair and beaded moccasins, stepped from the cab. Hunter's newspaper column – examining ecology, peace, psychology, and progressive ideas – often attracted strange visitors. Hunter stepped from the porch. The young man approached, carrying a small book, which he handed to Hunter. "This is for you," he said. "It will reveal a path that will affect your life."

Hunter looked at the title: *Warriors of the Rainbow, Strange and Prophetic Dreams of the Indian People*. On the cover, an Indian warrior sat below an eagle and a buffalo. The visitor explained that these were animal spirits appearing to a chief, who had gone into the wilderness to seek spiritual guidance. "Yeah, okay," Hunter said to the stranger. "Thanks."

The mysterious visitor departed without idle conversation. Hunter watched the red pickup bump down the gravel driveway. He thumbed the volume, finding references to peyote ceremonies, Buddhist teachings, and quotes from the Bible, Koran, and

Bhagavad-Gita. Pictures of the authors revealed a smiling Aleut from Alaska, William Willoya and a Stanford University biologist Vinson Brown. Hunter filed the book on his shelf and returned to his work.

In 1969, ecology appeared as a new idea for most people. Many had read Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* and we were aware that nuclear bomb tests had contaminated the atmosphere. A massive oil well blowout off the coast of California had recently disgorged 200,000 gallons of crude oil, fouling beaches and killing seabirds, seals, and dolphins.

Greenpeace did not yet exist, but in August, 1969, the US announced a series of nuclear bomb tests, scheduled for the Aleutian Island of Amchitka. Hunter, Irving and Dorothy Stowe, Jim and Marie Bohlen and others begin to organise opposition to the tests. Hunter wrote about the bomb and discovered in his research that the blast could cause earthquakes and a tsunami. For a protest march, Hunter made a sign that read, 'Don't Make A Wave'. Irving Stowe liked the slogan and named their group 'The Don't Make A Wave Committee', the forerunner to Greenpeace.

Two years later, the fishing boat *Phyllis Cormack*, christened 'Greenpeace', stood ready to set out for the Alaska bomb test site. On the night before departure, Hunter selected books to take on the voyage. When the little volume *Warriors of the Rainbow* fell from the shelf to the floor, he casually stuffed it into his bag.



The crew of the *Phyllis Cormack* in the longhouse of Kwakiutl Indians, Alert Bay, British Columbia, Canada.



# peace adopted an ancient north american legend

On 18 September 1971, the third day out, the *Phyllis Cormack* stopped at the Kwakiutl village at Alert Bay. Lucy and Daisy Sewid, the chief's daughters, met the crew at the dock and escorted them to a ceremony in the longhouse. Kwakiutl families blessed the ship, and fisherman donated salmon. The following morning Hunter filed a column describing the closed canneries and abandoned fish boats along the coast. He noted that the Kwakiutl had lived from the bounty of the sea for thousands of years before giant factory trawlers arrived with drift nets, and the North Pacific perch, herring, yellowfin sole, crab and shrimp began to disappear. Hunter saw in the depressed fishing economies a warning from the environment that humanity had reached the limits of industrial resource harvesting.

Hunter dug into his duffle bag and found the *Warriors of the Rainbow*. On the stern of the boat, as they moved north, Hunter read and paused at an excerpt from *The Ten Grandmothers* by Alice Marriott. "Of course you don't know what it's about when I sing of the old days," said the Grandmother. "You're just calves. You don't remember. You were born inside the fence, like my own grandchildren." Hunter felt a deep melancholy for what the world was losing.

A story called 'Return of the Indian Spirit' told of a 12-year-old boy who asked his Great Grandmother, Eyes of the Fire, "Why have such bad things happened to our people?" Hunter discovered in the story a confirmation that aboriginal people had something important to offer humanity. In the story, the old Grandmother tells the boy that the White race was sent here to learn about other ways of being. She tells the boy of a prophecy that someday people from all the races of the world will join together to save the earth from destruction and that these people will be known as 'Warriors of the Rainbow'.

At the Kitasoo native fishing village of Klemtu, cheering children swarmed the boat and sang songs for their guests. Hunter could not stop the tears from welling in his eyes. These people are counting on us, he thought to himself. The Greenpeace boat pushed north, with promises to return.

The US Coast Guard arrested that first Greenpeace vessel, but the campaign created public response and the US ended the nuclear tests. The group changed its name to 'Greenpeace' to merge the peace and ecology movements, helped force France to end atmospheric nuclear weapons testing, and then launched the 1975 whale campaign that exposed the Russian and Japanese whalers.

Throughout this period, we often referred to ourselves as 'Rainbow Warriors', inspired by the prophecy from the book. We staged a harp seal campaign that spring, and on Sunday, 13 June 1976, we launched a second whale campaign. Two boats stood at the dock in Vancouver, the *Phyllis Cormack* and a faster minesweeper, the *James Bay*, with rainbows painted on the bows.

To our surprise, a Cree elder from Saskatchewan, Fred Mosquito, asked to address the crowd. Wrapped in a ceremonial blanket, he spoke of the Cree legend of the Warriors of the Rainbow. We feared that the elder might rebuke us for being disrespectful, since we had never actually asked anyone if we could use the legend in our campaign.

When Fred Mosquito spoke, the crew huddled close. "Our prophecies we take seriously," said the Cree elder. "To us it is not just a story. It is a foretelling." Fred Mosquito waved his hand over the crowd and bore his eyes down on us. "You are the Warriors of the Rainbow," he said. Bob Hunter straightened. Others bowed their head solemnly. Hunter gave the Cree elder a Greenpeace pin. We filed down the pier, boarded the two boats, and set off for a second summer of harassing whalers in the Pacific. We assumed the role of Rainbow Warriors as a sacred trust.





# birth of a rainbow warrior



**Susi Newborn** together with her friends Denise Bell and Allan Thornton, was a founding member of Greenpeace UK in 1976. Determined to take a ship to the Southern Ocean to confront the whalers, the three of them made a bid on an old trawler, the *Sir William Hardy*, which they were able to purchase thanks to a grant from the Dutch branch of the World Wildlife Fund.

Susi recounts for us how the ship that was to become famous as the *Rainbow Warrior* sailed into history...

London in the 1970s was spiralling out of control. Mountains of waste rotting in plastic bags littered the streets. Scavengers – both animals and human – left a trail of detritus in their wake. Clocks on public buildings had given up marking time and angry youth vandalised public phones in the metropolis wasteland, the air rank with desolation. Trains rarely ran on time, the tight lipped scowl of the stockbroker muttering under his breath as bombs cut through the rush-hour silence and underground tunnels were filled with smoke. Into this chaos was born a Rainbow Warrior.

The Greenpeace UK office was on the second floor of an abandoned building in Whitehall. We had a view of Parliament, Pall Mall and Scotland Yard. We blasted the sound of humpback whales down Whitehall. We had massive speakers that someone connected to a famous band had loaned us. When people looked up, we would duck back from the window laughing ourselves stupid. I remember the bass of the humpback song shaking the glass around in our windows. The idea that one day I may encounter these magnificent creatures made me pedal harder as I rode my bike to work. Fag in one hand, a jam doughnut in the other, I cycled the 7 miles from East London to Whitehall, weaving in and out of the traffic, excited about the rusty old trawler – the *Sir William Hardy* – that Denise had found in some backyard basin in the London Docks.

Denise had friends in the merchant navy who told us what papers to read if we wanted to buy a boat. Someone from the British Antarctic Survey said we would have to buy an ice-class boat, and when we calculated how much fuel we would need to get from London to the Ross Sea, it started to look like a very expensive operation – especially when we only had a few hundred quid in the bank. So Allan suggested we go North, to Iceland, to the hunting grounds of the Fin whale. He had done the research, meticulous and detailed as always.

We then met Charles Hutchinson at a Country Joe benefit in Hyde Park. He and Allan slept in the office – Denise at times as well; she was scared vandals might steal the t-shirts. Benefit concerts in classic venues in the heart of Soho had given us enough money to print some t-shirts and sacks of these were comfortable enough to lie on at night in sleeping bags, after a meal of steamed veg from the throw-outs of the vegetable market just around the corner.

Actually, the only vandals were the CIS who broke in and stole all our files relating to the visit of a Native American Indian activist. We supported the aboriginal protests against uranium mining in Australia, and all communication with them disappeared too. It was too dangerous for them to visit us, so we spoke to them by phone to Geneva where they were petitioning the United Nations.



This was when it was decided that our rusting old trawler was to be called the 'Rainbow Warrior' and I wanted this activist to bless the name, because it came from a book written by an indigenous North American and spoke of myths that were not ours, except in their archetypal interpretation. Robert Hunter had given me a copy of the book. We were down below in the trawler and I was showing him where I was bunked. "You should have this book," he said and gave me the small tome. I often wonder whether it went down with the Warrior, or got lost along the way. I always remember it there, on the shelf in the mess room.

I never thought of myself as a Warrior of the Rainbow. I don't think Denise or Allan did, and I can't imagine Charles thinking that either. We wanted to transform that rusting old trawler into the Warrior of the Rainbow, to imbue in her the spirit of pachamama, our Mother Earth, fighting for survival. We moved through the experience with absolute conviction that what we were doing would work. It was like being in a movie, watching ourselves pull it all together, chipping the entire thing by hand, breathing in the red leaded dust of old paint.

So, when Denise called me from the dock and said "I've found a boat", I jumped on my bike and rode through the London dockland not knowing what to expect. "Who was Sir William Hardy?" I asked Denise as we wandered around the boat, opening the brass portholes to let in some air. Up on the bridge, it felt really good. We paced up and down pretending to look for the whalers through imaginary telescopes.

I opened the 'Warriors of the Rainbow' book when the discussion came to what a metallic Warrior of the Rainbow might look like. I argued with David McTaggart about having the name Greenpeace painted down the sides. He thought the name 'Rainbow Warrior' was silly. He changed his mind later!

The noble Kwakiutl totem had to go on the stern. That linked us to our history. In the days before computers and electric typewriters, in the days of Gestetner and Telex, it was harder to track people down. I wanted to find William Willoya and Vinson Brown, the authors of 'Warriors of the Rainbow'. I wanted to ask their permission and their blessing. I figured that no-one can really copyright doves or rainbows, so a part of me felt it was OK for our boat to bear this name, the dove, the rainbow on her bow.

Everything got so frantic in the preparation. We were now living on the boat and time was running out. Our skin was turning orange from the ingrained dust and I think I wore the same clothes for weeks on end. The engineers in blue overalls would sit on old copies of the *Daily Mirror* so that they oil-soiled clothing did not stain the upholstery in the mess room, slurping their cups of 'gum boot'. These were the real seamen, the ones we had paid to show us how to work the ship.

I caught Denise taking out a will in the Captain's cabin. She had a lawyer present and was signing the document in his Parker pen. "I don't know if I will come back alive," she said. "Someone has to look after Sandy". She wore an old Viking's helmet as we stood on the bow watching London Bridge open before us. "Blimey!" she said. "The boat actually works!" I think the Pilot guiding us down the Thames, must have thought we were nuts. We couldn't stop grinning as we drank cheap bubbly out of metal cups, toasting the unknown.

I found Willy (William Willoya) decades later. It's a convoluted story involving Maori, the Baha'i and Facebook. "Finally," he said, as if he knew that one day I would track him down. He's alive and well, with a history far more fascinating than mine. He loves the story of the *Rainbow Warrior*. But there again, who doesn't?

As I write this we are fast approaching the 25th anniversary of the bombing of the *Rainbow Warrior*. It saddens me how we mark this day, yet choose to ignore that other anniversary – 2 May 1978 – when the *Rainbow Warrior* set sail into history. I plan to take Willy by Maori canoe to the burial ground of our ship. The story will then have come full circle and hopefully start again, re-emerging with the genesis of the next *Rainbow Warrior*. Only time will tell.

## Rainbow Warrior at sea

On 2 May, 1978, flying the UN flag, the *Rainbow Warrior* sailed to the site of a proposed nuclear reactor at Torness, Scotland. That summer, her crew disrupted Icelandic whalers in the North Atlantic and exposed the clandestine ship Gem, dumping nuclear waste into the Atlantic trench.

Over the next seven years, the *Rainbow Warrior* protested nuclear waste dumping in Cherbourg, France; blockaded a Bayer ship that dumped chemical waste in the North Sea; confronted Spanish and Peruvian whalers and Norwegian sealers in Canada; exposed dolphin killing by tuna boats; protested off-shore oil development in California; staged a driftnet campaign in the Bering Sea; and exposed illegal Russian whaling.





# the diary of a warrior

## 1978 - 1979: Icelandic whaling

In 1978, Rainbow Warrior launches a whaling campaign against Icelandic whalers. It enters Icelandic waters in 1979; five harpoons are fired at close range over the heads of crew members. The Rainbow Warrior and a BBC TV crew are intercepted and detained by gunboats. The warrior returns to Iceland later in the year and defeats whaling attempts - the ship and crew are illegally arrested, and equipment is confiscated.



## 1980: The Escape from El Ferrol

The Rainbow Warrior's second trip to Spain to protest against Spanish whaling sees her seized and held in the military harbour of El Ferrol by Spanish authorities, who remove portions of the propulsion system to prevent her escape. In November, after being impounded for five months, replacement parts are taken aboard by crew - pretending to be drunk in order to fool the guards - and the ship escapes. Although the Spanish navy sailed out to sea in an attempt to catch her, she hugged the coast and arrived safely in Guernsey in the Channel Islands.



## 1980 - 1982: The Canadian Seal Hunt

Rainbow Warrior crosses the North Atlantic in 1980 to campaign against the slaughter of harp seal pups on the ice packs off the east coast of Canada. Members of the crew are arrested for dyeing the pups' coats green to make them commercially worthless. Film actress Brigitte Bardot is among the crew. Returning to Canada in 1982, several crew members are again arrested for saving the lives of hundreds of seal pups. At the height of the campaign, the EEC announces a ban on the importation of seal pup skins, heralding the death knell of the commercial sealing industry.





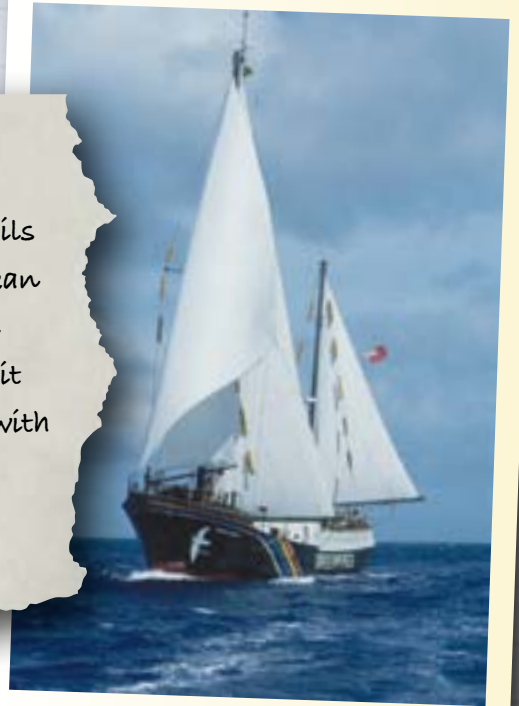
## 1983: Russian Whaling

In Siberia, the Rainbow Warrior documents illegal Russian whaling operations at Lorino, where several hundred California grey whales are killed each year. Seven crew members are arrested by the Soviets, but the Rainbow Warrior outmanoeuvres a Russian warship and other pursuit vessels, arriving safely back in Alaska. The crew members are held for five days but are finally released after international outcry against whaling and in support of Greenpeace's efforts.



## 1984: Pollution in the Gulf of Mexico

As part of Greenpeace's toxics campaign work, the Rainbow Warrior sails through the Panama Canal to the Gulf of Mexico, to protest against ocean incineration of toxic chemicals. Several days after the ship leaves San Francisco, the US Environmental Protection Agency revokes the permit to burn in the Gulf. (This same year sees the Rainbow Warrior fitted with sails, saving fuel and making her more environmentally friendly!).



## 1985: The Evacuation of Rongelap

As part of its Pacific peace voyage, the Rainbow Warrior sails to the Marshall Islands, equipped with tools, books and medical supplies: the 320 residents of the contaminated Rongelap Atoll – plagued with cancer, leukaemia, birth defects and miscarriages as the result of contamination following US nuclear tests in the 1950s – ask Greenpeace to help relocate them to Mejato Island, where they can begin a new life on uncontaminated soil. From here, the Rainbow Warrior will travel to Auckland, New Zealand – where it has unknowingly has an appointment with history...





10 July 1985

## YOU CAN'T SINK A RAINBOW...

10 July 1985 is a day that will forever be etched in the collective memories of both Greenpeace and New Zealand.

Twenty five years ago, the world was in the grip of the Cold War. Mikhail Gorbachev had just assumed de facto leadership of the Soviet Union and Ronald Reagan had been sworn in for his second term as US President. Global stockpiles of nuclear weapons were at an all-time high and the world was potentially an instant away from obliteration.

In New Zealand, Prime Minister David Lange had defended the country's fledgling nuclear-free policy – refusing nuclear warship USS Buchanan entry to New Zealand's waters. He received a standing ovation at the Oxford Union debate, where he famously told his American adversary he could 'smell the uranium' on his breath. And at Moruroa Atoll in the South Pacific, the French government's nuclear testing programme was a source of outrage for the New Zealand public and anti-nuclear activists everywhere.

Greenpeace was determined that the testing would end. The organisation was known for its use of non-violent direct action, influenced by the Quaker tradition of 'bearing witness' – the belief that, when a wrong is committed, it is important to be there to register your opposition. Greenpeace had attempted to disrupt the tests at Moruroa before. In 1973, David McTaggart – who later became the founder of Greenpeace International – sailed from New Zealand aboard the Vega. He'd been intercepted and savagely beaten by the French military police, but that was never going to deter Greenpeace from trying again. In 1985, Greenpeace's flagship Rainbow Warrior was to sail into the testing zone, and it had arrived in Auckland on 7 July to prepare for the trip. It had just sailed from Rongelap Atoll in the Pacific, where it had evacuated the local inhabitants to a new home. They were fleeing from the radioactive contamination afflicting their homeland.

Three days after arriving in Auckland, several people – including members of the crew living aboard the warrior – were celebrating the birthday of crew member Steve Sawyer. As the night progressed, the numbers aboard had dwindled to twelve, and three had gone to bed. Then, at 11 minutes to midnight, a huge explosion rocked the boat. Captain Pete Willcox, jolted from his sleep, stumbled down to the engine room and immediately ordered everyone to abandon ship.





Fernando Pereira, a Portuguese photographer and father, was worried about his cameras. He called out that he was going below to get them. Fernando was in his cabin when the second blast went off, barely two minutes after the first. By 4am, divers had recovered Fernando's body. He had drowned, trapped in his cabin; the straps of his camera bag tangled around one leg.

Within a few days police had arrested French secret service agents Alain Mafart and Dominique Prieur as they tried to return their van to an Auckland hire company. After a string of official denials, the truth became inescapable – the bombing was a deliberate act of sabotage that had been authorised at the highest levels of the French government. Monsieur Hernu, the Defence Minister, resigned and Prime Minister Laurent Fabius admitted that the French secret service had ordered the attack on the Rainbow Warrior.

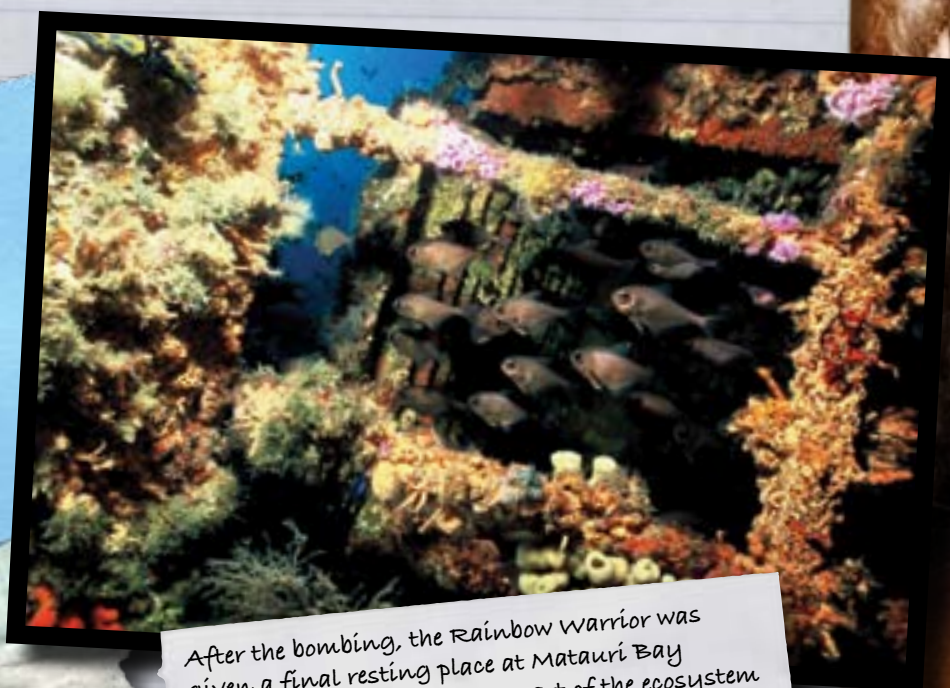
Charged with murder and arson, Mafart and Prieur – just two of a much larger team of saboteurs – pleaded guilty in the High Court at Auckland to lesser charges of manslaughter and willful damage, and were sentenced to 10 years' jail. France agreed to pay compensation of \$13 million New Zealand dollars to New Zealand and 'apologise' for the bombing, while Prieur and Mafart's sentences were reduced to three years. 'Imprisoned' on Hao Island in the Pacific, they were returned to France early, and neither of them ever completed their sentences.

The perpetrators of the bombing had seriously miscalculated and underestimated the resolve of Greenpeace. The tragedy served to reinforce the importance of our mission, and strengthened our determination to rid the world of nuclear weapons. 'You can't sink a rainbow' has become a catchphrase of our times.



**"a sordid act of international state-backed terrorism."**

New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange, on the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior.



After the bombing, the Rainbow Warrior was given a final resting place at Matakauri Bay Northland, where she is now part of the ecosystem and has become a popular dive destination.



## return to rongelap

This year is not only the 25th anniversary of the *Rainbow Warrior* bombing, but also 25 years since we moved the people of Rongelap from their radioactive island in the Marshall Islands.



Crew member **Bunny McDiarmid**, now Executive Director of Greenpeace New Zealand, asks if the world will ever learn from the lessons of the past...



It's been about ten years since I was in the Marshalls, and given the recent and unfair pressure that the US is putting on the Rongelap community to return to their home island, I am going back to visit to see how things are and to catch up with some old friends.

It's a long and very tragic story, but to recap a bit: in March 1954 the US detonated a 15 megaton nuclear bomb above Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands in the North Pacific. It was 1,000 times the explosive power of the Hiroshima bomb. Weather reports at the time indicated that the wind would carry radioactive fallout from this 'test' to the inhabited islands to the east, but despite knowing this the test still went ahead. Within hours a snowstorm of white radioactive ash fell on the people of Rongelap, who had no warning. Almost immediately they started vomiting and soon after came skin burns. It took three days before they were evacuated to the US army base a hundred miles away. When they were checked out, the US army medical team recommended that the Rongelap people should have 'no exposure for the rest of their natural lives'.

Three years later the US declared Rongelap to be safe and the people were returned home, but immediately their body levels of radioactivity increased. Stillbirths and miscarriages doubled in number and ten years after the exposure to the fallout the thyroid tumours started. The US sent teams of army scientists to study the people but prevented the Rongelap people from having their own independent doctors.

Rongelap was lucky in that it had a very brave and determined Senator, Jeton Anjain, who had actually been a student at Otago Medical School. He had seen his brother die of leukaemia, the only casualty of the fallout acknowledged by the US. He did not believe the assurances by the US that his home island was safe and, after years of misinformation about the real state of their health, he approached Greenpeace to help relocate his whole community to another island in the Marshalls where he believed they would be safe. He also thought that only by doing something as dramatic as that would he get the attention of the US congress.





In May 1985 the *Rainbow Warrior* arrived in the seemingly beautiful lagoon of Rongelap Atoll and over the course of the next two weeks moved 350 people and all their belongings to Mejato, an island 80 miles away. It was my first experience with Greenpeace and it left a lasting impression on me. It was a really big thing for the people to decide to do, to give up their land, but they gave it up 'for the future of our kids'. The island they moved to was uninhabited and they wanted it like that so that they could maintain their Rongelap identity. But the island was a hard one to live on – it was smaller, with a lot less local food growing, and the fishing is poor.

Greenpeace returned regularly over the next ten years to deliver supplies and keep in touch. It took years for the US to finally admit that they had conducted the test knowing that communities would be irradiated, and even more years and court cases for them to compensate the Rongelap community.

Now, 25 years later with some clean-up undertaken, the US is tiring of the 'problem' and wants the Rongelap community to hurry up and move back so they can all move on. But many Rongelap people and some US government people still believe it is not safe enough and that the clean-up thus far will not meet the resettlement terms of an agreement reached in 1992.

The agreement with the US provided that resettlement would occur only if anybody returning to Rongelap and subsisting on a native-foods-only diet would receive a calculated annual whole-body radiation dose equivalent to no more than 100 millirems (radiation measurement) above background. It is interesting to note that the limit set for the general public in the US by the Environmental Protection Agency is 25 millirems.

Forcing the Rongelap people home under such uncertain conditions would be irresponsible and simply extend the criminal experiment the people have endured for more than 50 years.

I feel privileged to have been involved with the Rongelap community over the last 25 years, and I feel lucky today to count some of them as good friends. Despite the terrible crime committed against them they do not hate or judge all 'westerners' by what the US Defence department did to them.

I think their humanity teaches us all a lot and certainly their nuclear legacy reinforces 1,000 times over that global disarmament is fundamental to providing security for us all.



# the diary of a warrior continues

## 1989 - A New Warrior

Following the attack on the Rainbow Warrior, under international pressure, the French government paid \$8.16 million US dollars to Greenpeace and compensation to the family of Fernando Pereira. With this money, an old but similar vessel was converted and the Rainbow Warrior was reborn. Launched on 10 July 1989 in Hamburg, the new Rainbow Warrior immediately started a European tour, and prepared for a Pacific campaign against driftnets.



## 1991 - Troubled Waters

In August 1991, the Rainbow Warrior threads her way through the waters in and around Valdez, Alaska. Extensive research and direct actions are performed regarding the impacts of the oil spill in the area. Two years earlier, the Exxon Valdez spilled 11 million gallons of crude oil into Alaska's Prince William Sound in one of the largest ecological disasters the world had seen at that time. This spill fouled hundreds of miles of coastline, killed thousands of otters and hundreds of thousands of birds, and untold fish and other wildlife...





## 1995 - Back to Moruroa

In June 1995, French President Chirac announces a return to nuclear testing in the Pacific after a 3-year moratorium. The Rainbow Warrior heads for Moruroa Atoll. On 9 July - the eve of the 10th anniversary of the bombing of the first Rainbow Warrior - while being followed by three French warships, she crosses the 12-mile test zone limit established by the French. Following hot pursuit, French commandos in inflatables finally storm the Rainbow Warrior, throwing tear gas onto the bridge. The ship is boarded again later in the year. Greenpeace continues its protests around the world, condemning a third French nuclear test in October 1995. Following immense international pressure, France finally announces the end of testing in the Pacific in February 1996.



## 2003 - Shipbreaking

Greenpeace's efforts to achieve tighter controls on the notorious shipbreaking industry resulted in an international agreement to treat obsolete ships as toxic waste. Greenpeace activists launched 'toxic patrols' from the Rainbow Warrior to expose the dumping of contaminated ships on the beaches in Alang, India, where retired ships are sent for scrapping. The majority of ships come from developed countries and many contain hazardous materials, such as asbestos and toxic PCBs.





## a captain's tale



In August 2008, Greenpeace Captain **Mike Fincken** shared with us some key moments of the *Rainbow Warrior's* 'Quit Coal Campaign' in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, where we promoted solutions to stop climate change.

For this special *Rainbow Warrior* issue of *The Quarterly* we asked Mike to tell us more about what is like to be one of the captains of such a legendary vessel.

I read the weather and make choices accordingly: when to run with all the sail out and when to seek shelter from storms – I spend hours each day pouring over weather charts, estimating speeds and calculating distances and then I discuss it, gauging the feelings of the other mates at the changing of the watch. Wind does not blow continuously from one direction, it dances around compass points; and when the direction changes, there's also a need to adjust the course of the boat. Sailing is a preoccupying activity – but exhilarating.

The first thing I do on arriving in a port, while the crew are busy preparing gangways and setting chaffing gear on the mooring lines, is to calculate the total distances and times under sail and engine – I write them up on the chalk board in the mess-room for us all to gloat over, for it is the wind in the sails of the *Rainbow Warrior* that gives us inspiration. The greatest sail she gave me was in 2008 from Wellington, NZ to Legaspi, Philippines. It was a five week transit of which three weeks were under sail and more than half the distance covered that way – pretty good for an old fishing boat with a large rounded bottom.

When *Rainbow Warrior* heels over to a steady wind and stays that way for days with no rumbling main engine, when you can see a wake draw out from the stern and there is no propeller churning it, at those time there is a peace that settles over the faces of her 15 crew – and I feel proudly responsible. In storms, when the sails are reefed to resemble the corners of handkerchiefs and the rigging screams out in protest, the swell may be two or three times the size of the little old boat and mountains of water roll past in slow motion. At those times the best crew can do is hold on or lie down in their bunks, coming up periodically to look out the bridge windows in awe at the majestic power of water – and I feel proudly responsible.

But all the while, an undercurrent of tension – for I am gambling with nature, anticipating wind speeds and wave heights, feeling the way across the sea. I sleep in short spells as she rises up and crashes down into the waves; I hear a banging (the pilot door worked loose), a sail winch whine (a duty mate reefing in or paying out), sometimes the boat gets a vicious slap from a rogue wave – I'm on the bridge again, watching, calculating, preoccupied.

Fifteen crew on board the boat during these crossings. For weeks and weeks marooned – an island sailing over Planet Ocean. We hold debates on the bridge, table-tennis in the hold, lingering conversations at meal times. We never tire of watching dolphins in the bow wave. Once, off Flores island, Indonesia, I saw a volcano erupting and took the boat in to hear the rumbling and popping, see the tumbling liquid red rocks landing in the sea hissing steam and sulphuric gasses. All the crew on deck and the cook in his whites – ash condensed and dropped as mud onto the deck and onto that lovely white uniform – a lasting impression.





And I feel proudly responsible when the shout of 'whales!' is taken up and echoed down the corridors or 'dolphins at the bow' again. I feel responsible for the moonbows, rainbows and swim stops in three thousand meters of water.

Following weeks of ocean crossing we arrive in port and within an hour are inundated with those who have prepared our way, who have been counting the days to our arrival, coordinating a welcoming flotilla of local fishermen to escort us into port. Captain and crew, who over the crossing have become quiet and introspective, change gear. There is a press-conference within the hour, folding chairs are arranged and information displayed. Crew sent aloft to hang a banner. First to arrive are the colourful microphones and finally a black car: the mayor of the town. The Captain, so far removed and out to sea, clears his throat and welcomes everybody on board. The words find him and with just a few choice ones he brings that raw ocean and that vision of *Rainbow Warrior* in to inspire.

The press prick up their ears and listen intently to the campaign message that follows. Sometimes it comes in a foreign language: I sit, I nod, I stand behind the wheel for photographs with the minister, or on the quay beneath the name '*Rainbow Warrior*' painted onto the bow.

In the meantime, in the belly of the boat, the action coordinators are waiting with sea charts at the ready. The chief mate tags along with me – two heads are better than one. A circle is marked on the chart to indicate a coal-fired power-station, a few aerial photographs are scattered on the table to indicate a precise position. The action window starts in 24 hours, I put on a brave face and feel my heart muscle contracting. Pilot books are scanned and tidal calculations made for a place I've never been. The weather checked.

The *Rainbow Warrior* is an old boat and has no side thrusters to assist in manoeuvring. The 36 metre high masts have a lot of windage with banner blazing our message.

She has a strong transverse thrust (meaning due to the shape of her propeller she cannot go backwards in a straight line). Her characteristics are so pronounced and the old lady takes skill and confidence on the dance floor to guide into the right position. The anchors go out, I swing her first this way and then that to bring her to a position that looks dramatic and gets attention. Over the radio I transmit the message – 'We are Greenpeace...' and then the waiting game begins, phones ring as papers want to know why. Port Authorities are often the first to come along and ask us to leave, then coastguard or police, customs and immigration officials may try their luck to get us to move along.

When the action is over and we find our way to a friendly port, doors are opened to everyone to come on board the boat and meet the crew. Safely alongside, with the gangway down and mooring lines made fast, I recount our activities again and again and the reason we have taken to action. I feel honoured that *Rainbow Warrior* has chosen me to be her Captain to lead warriors young and old, men and women, to action. I feel honoured to carry the prophecy foretold by Eyes of the Fire - that of the Warriors of the Rainbow - and encircle the globe inspiring all creeds, colours and cultures to rise up to defend our Mother Earth and show ourselves to be warriors through action. It is a living role.





## 2003 - Conflict Timber

Supported by the Rainbow Warrior, Greenpeace activists uncovered a shipment of conflict timber – defined as timber that is 'traded in a way that drives violent armed conflict and threatens national or regional security' – on the MV Mentor in the Italian port of Salerno. The area around the ship is cordoned off by the activists and marked as a Forest Crime Scene. The logs were identified with the slogans 'Africa Crime' and 'Logs of War'. Large 'postage stamps' were then stuck to the logs and stamped 'Return to Sender'.



the diary of  
a warrior  
continues

## 2005 - Saving the Dugong

In March 2005 the Rainbow Warrior arrived in Okinawa, Japan, to support local residents in trying to ensure that a US military base wouldn't bring about the demise of the Okinawa dugong. The beautiful Okinawa reef is home to Japan's last remaining population of critically endangered dugong, as well as other marine mammals and sea turtles. The UN Environmental Programme was calling for the creation of a marine reserve to protect the creature; instead, the plan was to dynamite the reef and build a runway through it.





## 2007 - Dumai Palm Oil Action

For three days in November the Rainbow Warrior actively blocked the palm oil tanker MT Westama, which was loading over 30,000 metric tonnes of palm oil, from leaving Dumai Port, Riau Province, Sumatra, Indonesia. Indonesia is the world's leading palm oil exporter and Dumai is its leading palm oil port. This was the first time an action of this kind had been undertaken in Indonesia, and there was a lot of local and national interest and support.



## 2008 - 'Quit Coal!'

The Rainbow Warrior sailed across the Mediterranean and Europe in 2008 to call for the region to quit coal and save the climate, ahead of the crucial UN climate negotiations to be held in Poznan, Poland, in December 2008. From Israel to Denmark, the tour highlighted that to save the climate we have to end our dependence on coal, and adopt more clean energy solutions.





## the next *rainbow warrior*

Beginning with our first action in 1971, when Greenpeace activists sailed towards the remote island of Amchitka to bear witness to the US government's nuclear testing activities, we have always been prepared to travel to the furthest reaches of our planet to stop environmental crime. Now, with 40 offices all around the globe, Greenpeace continues to work for a green and peaceful future. And because so many environmental crimes happen at sea and in ports, in the global commons which have no voice of their own, ships continue to be an essential tool in our work.

The current *Rainbow Warrior* is approaching her recommended decommissioning date.

The new *Rainbow Warrior* will be a virtual office at sea. A top-notch on-board communications centre will allow us to harness the power of social media while also transmitting images to the world's media in minutes, so that people can witness the reality of what is happening and be invited to take action. A helicopter pad will give us air potential so that no place remains completely inaccessible, whether it be tracking illegal fishing operations, whalers or illegal wood transports. Ample space to store rigid inflatable boats means that our activists will be able to mount rapid response actions anywhere in the world.

This custom-designed new *Rainbow Warrior* is also a sailing vessel and will be built with the latest advances in environmental construction, capitalising on wind power for much of her travels. In this way not only will we greatly reduce our own carbon footprint, but we will also serve as an example to others of smart environmental investment.

Among other exciting design features is the built-in satellite uplink, which will have a 24/7 broadband connection, providing the world with incredible access, images and contact with the crew as the ship carries out her missions. It will also allow many millions of people to join as virtual rainbow warriors. Specially designed cranes will allow for the rapid deployment of inflatables - a key tool in confronting environmental abuse. The ship will set sail next year, in time for the 40th anniversary of the founding of Greenpeace.

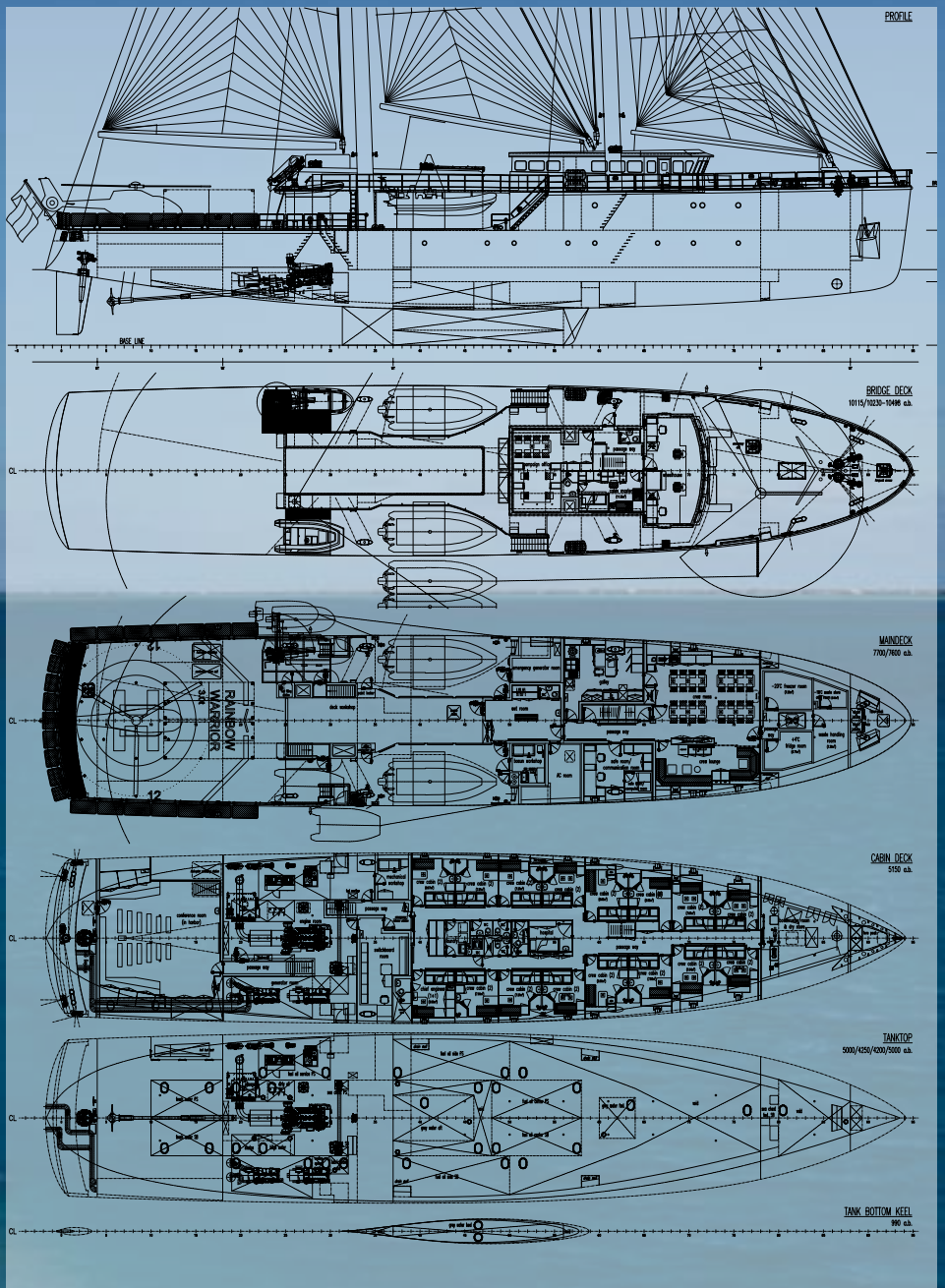


**You'll find no corporate logos on her side, no product endorsements funding the construction - this ship is being built by individuals like you and me.**

**Please help us invest in the future - make a donation and be a part of creating a new *Rainbow Warrior* for a new world.**









# in memoriam jim bohlen



*Jim Bohlen (left), together with Paul Cote and the late Irving Stowe*

There's an old joke that you can walk into any bar in Vancouver and find somebody claiming to be a Greenpeace founder. If that somebody had been Jim Bohlen, however, then this claim would have been absolutely true. It is with very deep sadness, then, that we learned of Jim's death on 5 July, 2010, at the age of 84.

Born in New York City in 1926, Jim trained as a US naval radio operator. After US navy service, he obtained an engineering degree and took a job with a defence contractor on Long Island, where he met famed engineer R. Buckminster Fuller. Jim moved to Vancouver in the late 1960s when his second wife Marie's son became eligible for the military draft; as Quakers, they were strongly opposed to US involvement in Vietnam.

One Saturday morning in the spring of 1968, the Bohlens attended an anti-war demonstration on the lawn of the Provincial Court House. Knowing almost nobody there, they looked for fellow Quakers among the maze of protestors, and introduced themselves to Irving and Dorothy Stowe. The four soon became devoted friends, and were charter members of a new British Columbia chapter of the Sierra Club.

In 1969, the US began testing nuclear weapons at Amchitka Island, Alaska. The 'Cannikin' test was scheduled for September 1971. Although some in the Sierra Club got cold feet about campaigning against the tests, Jim, Irving and law student Paul Cote formed the 'Don't Make a Wave Committee' in November 1969. The Committee met at the Stowes' house to plan their protest against the Amchitka test, but the consensus process of the committee could often result in long debates and slow resolutions.

Jim was explaining his frustrations with this slow process to Marie one morning, when she casually asked why they didn't simply sail a boat there. At the same time, they received a telephone call from the Vancouver Sun, asking what campaigns they might be planning. Caught off-guard, Jim said, "We hope to sail a boat to Amchitka to confront the bomb." The newspaper ran the story the following day.

Although Marie's idea and Jim's 'announcement' had bypassed the consensus process, nobody opposed the plan. The Committee unanimously ratified the action, although at that time they had neither a boat nor the money to charter one. Stowe organised a concert – which would feature Joni Mitchell, James Taylor, Phil Ochs and Chilliwack – to raise funds for a boat; Bohlen, in the meantime, stumbled across one Captain John C. Cormack, skipper of the halibut seiner Phyllis Cormack.

Jim's naval experience was one of the many reasons he was a leader aboard the Phyllis Cormack when it sailed towards Amchitka, ahead of the testing. In a protest inspired by the Quaker movements practice of 'bearing witness' the political furor caused by the group – which had now renamed itself Greenpeace – caused the test to be delayed. The US would ultimately abandon its programme.

Jim continued to work with Greenpeace for several years, leaving when the organisation shifted its campaign focus to other issues. When the 1980s saw a resurgence of Greenpeace campaigning against nuclear weapons he was involved once again, leading direct actions against cruise missile testing and participating in the Nuclear Free Seas campaign against nuclear weapons being brought into port cities aboard the warships of nuclear navies. Jim retired to his home on Denman Island in 1987. A passionate 'green' and 'peacenik,' he continued to advocate renewable energy and agitate against nuclear power and nuclear weapons as a Green Party activist, standing as a candidate in the federal election of 1988.

Jim is survived by his wife Marie, a stepson, a son and daughter by his first wife Anna, and a global environmental organisation. The simple but serendipitous enthusiasm of Jim and Marie on the morning they told the Vancouver Sun they would be taking a boat to Amchitka was, arguably, the moment that Greenpeace was born.



## in memoriam dorothy stowe



Dorothy Anne Rabinowitz was born in Providence, Rhode Island on 22 December, 1920, to Jewish immigrant parents from Russia and Galicia. She described her father Jacob as “idealistic and political. He cared about justice not only for Jewish people, but for everyone.” Dorothy’s mother, Rebecca Miller, taught Hebrew and inspired Dorothy to pursue an education. Dorothy attended Pembroke College in the US, majored in English and philosophy, became a psychiatric social worker, and served as the first president of her local civic employees’ union. During the repressive McCarthy era, when she threatened a strike, the state governor erroneously called her a communist, but she stood her ground and won a pay raise for her union.

In 1953, Dorothy married civil rights lawyer Irving Strasmich. They celebrated their wedding dinner at the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the organisation that launched the US civil rights movement. They changed their family name to Stowe in honour of Harriet Beecher Stowe – pioneering feminist and abolitionist, who helped end slavery in the US. The Stowes had two children, Robert, born in 1955, and Barbara in 1956, both now living in Vancouver.

In the 1950s, Dorothy and Irving Stowe began campaigning against nuclear weapons, adopting the Quaker ideas of ‘bearing witness’ to wrong-doing and ‘speaking truth to power’. In 1961, to avoid supporting the Vietnam War with their taxes, Dorothy and Irving immigrated to New Zealand, where they led demonstrations at the US embassy and protested French nuclear weapons tests in

Polynesia. However, when New Zealand sent troops to Vietnam in 1965, the Stowes moved their family to Canada. In Vancouver, Dorothy worked as a family therapist, supporting Irving’s full time peace activism. The Stowes met journalists Bob Hunter and Ben and Dorothy Metcalfe, who helped promote their campaigns. At a peace rally, they met fellow Quakers Jim and Marie Bohlen and Hunter’s British wife Zoe.

This group formed the core of a new peace and ecology organisation that would rock the world with dramatic protests. Today, this organisation has offices in over 40 countries, including China and India, and most recently in Africa. “It is amazing,” Dorothy recalled, “what a few people sitting around their kitchen table can achieve.”

Over the years Dorothy has hosted hundreds of young activists, who made the pilgrimage to her home for inspiration. When the band U2 visited Vancouver in 2005, singer Bono made a special effort to meet Dorothy Stowe. Dorothy never rested on past success or stopped working for social change. Her life-long dedication has inspired activists around the world.

A month before she passed away, Dorothy hosted a brunch for new Greenpeace International Executive Director Kumi Naidoo. Kumi mentioned later that the meeting was one of the most inspiring moments of his life, witnessing the optimism and enthusiasm of a woman who had dedicated her life to making the world a better place for others.

**The most fitting memorial for Dorothy Stowe, Jim Bohlen, and the other Greenpeace founders who have passed away, is that we simply get up each morning and go back to work in the service of peace, justice, and the living Earth. This is all they would have asked of us.**



## news from around the world the



**Greg McNevin** works in communications for Greenpeace International. He is currently focused on ending whaling by helping Greenpeace activists Junichi Sato and Toru Suzuki fight a landmark court case in Japan. The Tokyo Two, as Sato and Suzuki are known, are on trial after exposing large-scale corruption in the whaling industry.

The dust from this year's International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting in Morocco has now settled, and while the outcome was dubbed by some as a 'win', in that the moratorium has thankfully been retained, what we have in reality is a 'less tragic loss', since the status quo has also remained and whaling continues.

The annual IWC meeting had only just begun when pro and anti-whaling governments moved discussions behind closed doors. Even then, delegates were unable to find common ground. Instead, they decided to take a one-year break or 'cooling off period' to continue mulling over a proposal that could have potentially brought an end to Japan's farcical Southern Ocean 'research' whaling expeditions – if only the politicians had stepped up to improve the proposal and strengthen the existing moratorium.

What was clear was that the meeting had, once again, been an abject failure. Cooling off periods usually follow big, potentially risky decisions, and IWC delegations could hardly be accused of any kind of decisiveness or risk taking. It's the same old story, and it's one we've seen every year behind the scenes at this annual circus. However, there have been some promising developments outside of the tent.

For many years Japan has been accused of buying votes to support its position and keep its thinly-disguised commercial whale hunt afloat. While persistent, these allegations have repeatedly been dismissed as the unsubstantiated claims of conservationists. However, this year these claims and others – including one of corruption in the whaling industry – have been confirmed by insider information, undercover investigations by respected journalists and direct accounts from numerous whistleblowers.





# international whaling commission

In the fortnight leading up to the June IWC meeting, vote-buying allegations were published in an explosive exposé in the UK's *Sunday Times*. The *Times* claimed numerous IWC member countries had sold their votes to Japan in return for development aid and money. Long rumoured, these accusations were hardly surprising news, but with Japan accused of paying for airfares and hotel accommodation of IWC delegates, giving allowances and even hiring prostitutes in its attempts to secure votes favourable to itself, it all became deeply disturbing.

Instead of discussing the pressing concern about the impartiality of IWC officials, delegations instead opted for backroom discussions. That we now find ourselves facing another year of bloody whale hunts is a prime example of how political leaders and bodies like the IWC have failed to take reckless governments to task and refused to regulate destructive industries. They have become hopelessly entangled in drawn out political negotiations, allowing well-vested interests to easily win out over scientific and environmental reality. We saw it in Copenhagen last year and again at CITES this year, with the disastrous failure for bluefin tuna. Once again, a golden opportunity slipped by at this vitally important IWC meeting.

Whales are an iconic species, not only because of the awe these leviathans inspire, but also because they are the original poster child for the dangers of relentless commercial exploitation. The 1986 moratorium on commercial whaling is one of the most significant conservation wins of the past 30 years, but it is about more than protecting whales. It is about recognising that unchecked exploitation of environmental resources simply cannot continue. If we allow this achievement to be rolled back because it is politically convenient, because entrenched bureaucrats win out over real science, it will not only be harder to protect whales in the future, but it will be harder to enact other conservation agreements.

How will we forge a strong climate accord if we know it can be overturned or simply ignored without penalty by a few rogue nations? How will we commit to setting aside 40% of the world's oceans as marine reserves if we cannot keep one country's harpoons out of an international whale sanctuary? And how will we be able to negotiate these deals if the countries we are negotiating with are allowed to buy the support they need?

In 2008, Greenpeace began an investigation into embezzlement in Japan's whaling industry. This investigation ended with the arrest, detention and trial of Junichi Sato and Toru Suzuki, the activists who had exposed the scandal in the first place. When the Greenpeace investigation is also held up alongside the *Sunday Times*' vote-buying allegations, it is clear that what we know about corruption inside the Japanese whaling programme is just the tip of the iceberg.

Junichi Sato not only attended this year's IWC meeting, he also stood up in the plenary and called for a proper investigation into the vote-buying allegations levelled at Japan in front of a stony-faced Japanese delegation. Junichi, along with his colleague Toru, was already risking his freedom to end Japan's whaling, so standing up in this manner when he knew it could impact his highly-political trial, was a perfect example of the risks individuals are taking for issues of great importance to society, and whose which politicians simply aren't willing to take.

Copenhagen, CITES and now the IWC were all critical opportunities for the environment and conservation, and at every point our leaders have failed in their public duty and allowed national interests to trump the international. This cannot continue.

If it is to recover any credibility as a relevant international body, the International Whaling Commission must, as a matter of urgency, begin an investigation into the allegations of Japanese vote buying and corruption of its officials. It must then be modernised into a body that protects whales, not whalers. There is no other way forward.

This is the International Year of Biodiversity, and we have not managed to protect even one endangered species. It is unacceptable for politicians to continue to sit on their hands and turn a blind eye to the scandals. Later this year, Japan will host the international Convention on Biological Diversity, another opportunity for leaders to take concrete steps to restore our planet to health for future generations. We need your help to ensure this meeting ends in success and does not become another missed opportunity.





### esperanza

From mid-May to early July, the *Esperanza* undertook a two-month 'Arctic Under Pressure' ship expedition. As climate change causes the Arctic sea ice to melt, the Arctic Ocean is coming under increasing threats from potentially expanded industrial activities, including fishing and oil and gas exploration. During the expedition, we examined some of the threats facing fragile Arctic Ocean ecosystems.

We captured some breathtaking images of previously unseen areas of the sea floor north of Svalbard, seeing for the first time a very diverse and sensitive Arctic Ocean ecosystem rich in marine organisms such as soft corals, sea squirts and sponges. Allowing industrial fishing fleets to take advantage of the melting ice by advancing northwards will put these incredible habitats at risk of destruction even before they have been properly studied.

The expedition also supported German marine science institute IFM-GEOMAR to carry out the largest ever experiment on ocean acidification, a process caused by the ocean's absorption of CO<sub>2</sub> pollution from industrial emissions. When CO<sub>2</sub> enters the ocean, it forms a weak carbonic acid; this happens faster and with more impact in cold Arctic waters, and has a detrimental effect on the ability of shell and skeleton-building organisms, such as corals, shellfish and plankton to form their structures. If we keep emitting CO<sub>2</sub> at the current rate, marine organisms will experience changes in ocean acidity beyond anything they have experienced in the last 20 million years of their evolutionary history.

We must give the Arctic Ocean – a pristine polar ocean wilderness - real protection from the double threat of resource exploitation and climate change. Greenpeace is urging that the lessons learned from the collapse of fish species due to overfishing such as North Atlantic cod, and the devastation from the Gulf oil spill be applied to the Arctic Ocean. Greenpeace is calling on governments to agree stronger controls to protect the Arctic, including an international moratorium on all industrial activities.





# the greenpeace ships



## rainbow warrior and arctic sunrise

From May to June, the *Rainbow Warrior* and the *Arctic Sunrise* patrolled the Mediterranean, taking non-violent direct action against the fishing of highly endangered bluefin tuna. Bluefin tuna stocks in the Mediterranean are estimated to be 80% below original levels. Scientists have warned that the bluefin crisis is now so severe that, unless all fishing of the species is stopped, stocks face collapse. The species' only chance of survival is the closure of the Mediterranean bluefin fishery until stocks recover.

During the 'Defending Our Mediterranean' tour, we took action against a French purse seiner, trying to submerge its net so that the trapped tuna could be freed. Other tuna vessels rushed in, and a Greenpeace activist was injured when the spike of a grappling hook was shot through his leg. Two Greenpeace inflatable boats were slashed with knives and sank when run over by the seining vessels.

A few days later, Tunisian fishermen reacted angrily when we tried to open a net cage that was towing tuna to a ranching operation where the fish would be fattened and then sold for high prices in foreign markets. The following week, when we attempted to free endangered bluefin tuna from another large cage bound for a Mediterranean bluefin tuna farm, we also met a great deal of resistance from the fishing vessels - one of which fired flares at us - and the Maltese Navy, who used water cannons against us.

The European Commission ended the EU purse-seining fishing season early this year as vessels fished so intensively that they reached their quota in just a few days. Non-EU vessels were able to continue fishing for a further week, until 15 June. The European Commission has said it will pursue a full-scale ban on bluefin tuna fishing in the Mediterranean in coming years. Such statements need to be backed up by real action, though. All countries - including EU fishing nations such as France, Spain, Italy, Greece and Malta - must endorse the closure of the fishery until stocks recover, and support the permanent protection of bluefin spawning grounds at the International Commission for Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).



## news from around the world the

BP's Deepwater Horizon oil spill - now considered to be the worst accidental spill in history - started on 20 April 2010. But, as the oil spread below the surface and away from the public's eyes, so did the truth about what was really happening in the Gulf.

Greenpeace was the first to locate oil washing up on the marshes and also to take media there, allowing the world to see what BP didn't want to be seen. **Joao Talocchi** arrived in the Gulf on 28 July, joining the Greenpeace team as it travelled to the most impacted areas, covering the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.



As soon as I got to Grand Island, Louisiana, I went out with one of the Greenpeace boats. As we left the marina, a pod of dolphins started to follow us and for the first time in my life, I didn't want to see them - instead, I wanted them to get as far away as possible, because just a few metres from us six boats were trying to clean up oil from the water surface. When we came close to the boats doing the clean-up and pointed our cameras at them, a BP-hired security vessel sped towards us, asking who we were and saying we couldn't be there - actually, there was no 'regulation' at the time as to whether we could be there or not. This was my first encounter with the oil, with the dolphins and with the roadblocks BP was placing, making it difficult for people like us who wanted to show the rest of the world the truth.

The boats working for BP had a big sticker and a little red flag on, which helped with their identification either from the water or from the air. It also meant that every time we approached them, with no such identification sticker, we'd be greeted with suspicion. The same thing would happen at many other places. On a visit to one of the bird rehabilitation centres, a staff member would always stay close to us, watching our every step. When we tried to talk to members of the clean-up crews, we'd be told, "I'm not allowed to talk about the oil". Cardboard signs were painted with the words 'Beach Closed' or 'No Access' and a police car parked next to them would be blocking the road ahead. One of our teams was 'escorted' out of a marsh area by officials, who told them that they weren't supposed to be there. When we called the Coast Guard to try to find out more about these access regulations, we were directed to another phone number: BP's.

Some people might look at Greenpeace and say "You were on a boat powered by oil, so you don't have the right to campaign against it." The fact is, we're not campaigning for an energy-free future, or even for a transport-free planet. We are campaigning for a future with universal access to clean, renewable and safe energy and a healthy climate. What we have to keep in mind is that we don't need oil and other fossil fuels as such. What we need is energy, and our Energy [R]evolution scenario proves that it is feasible and realistic to get this energy from sources that won't destroy the environment, societies and the climate.

I spent a lot of time on the boats looking for oil but, to my surprise, it wasn't that easy to locate. We followed official projections, winds, tides and currents, and even when we hit the cross on the map, sometimes the oil just wouldn't be there. I could smell the chemicals in the air, see birds with oiled feathers, but there would be no heavy slick or oiled shores. A strange thing, when you think about the astronomic amounts of oil gushing from the well.

It so happens that BP was using millions of litres of a dispersant called 'corexit'. This is a toxic chemical that breaks the oil into small, tiny droplets, so it doesn't create a heavy slick on the surface. Basically, it transfers the impacts of the leak from the surface - where it can be seen and photographed - to the water column below, where it is hidden away from the public. The mixture of oil and corexit was probably what was giving me and my teammates headaches - after a day in the field, we'd feel sick and fatigued. I can only imagine what it was doing to the clean-up crews spending long hours in close contact with the oil, without respirators.

In any case, there wasn't enough corexit on the entire planet that could break down all the oil coming out of the well. With time, we started to find it; on the shores and the marshes, the beaches and rocks, on birds, turtles and the bottom of our boat. It would be found wherever it could accumulate and, because it travelled below the surface, the clean-up and protection barriers were not effective in containing it. Sometimes I would see a boom - supposed to protect a particular island or marsh - impregnated with oil on both sides. At other times, the waves would wash over it. During storms, the booms seemed completely useless.

If you ever have to venture on an oil-polluted marsh, you'd better have very tight protective boots on.





# deepwater horizon oil spill

Everyone knows that crude oil sticks, but I had no idea how much until I felt it gluing my boots to the ground, as if it was thick mud. It felt heavy, more like cement than oil. The sad thing is it wasn't just me who found it hard to move in the oil. As I wandered around, I saw lots of birds, crabs, molluscs and small young fish struggling to move or already dead, covered in oil. The birds that weren't soaked in oil, but had still come into contact with it, would suffer from hypothermia, as they couldn't keep their feathers dry – they'd also be contaminated by their own efforts to clean themselves with their beaks. Birds that didn't even touch the oil on the surface will experience the nasty long-term impacts of eating contaminated food.

In the Gulf of Mexico, I attended government hearings on the spill, talked to scientists, first nation communities, local businesses, and other NGOs. At the hearings, I'd hear representatives of the oyster and tourism industry enumerating the giant losses they were facing and the impacts the spill would have in the long term. Restaurant menus warned customers that they wouldn't be serving oysters. Bait shops and fishing boat rentals were closed. Surf shops had piles of products sitting on the hanging racks. Hotels that should be booked with tourists were filled by clean-up crews, generating no income to the local tourism industry. Reports notice increased domestic violence related to the lack of work and the general stress created by the disaster. It's a nightmare that everyone wants to wake up from, but it will only happen when we end our addiction to fossil fuels.

No matter how good a response plan to an oil spill might look, the only way to truly avoid the impacts of a spill is to stop drilling in the first place. At this moment, Greenpeace has two ships campaigning for an Energy [R] evolution. The *Arctic Sunrise* is in the Gulf of Mexico, continuing the work started by the ground teams months ago. Its mission is to uncover some of the hidden secrets of the spill, and it will do this by providing a

platform for scientists to conduct independent research, at a time when the media is reporting on BP's attempts to 'buy' scientists and keep them from going to the Gulf there and speaking the truth. The *Esperanza* is in the Arctic, and is confronting the oil industry's unrealistic attempt to dig the last drop of oil out of the ground, putting one of the most pristine regions of our planet at risk.



**From land or sea,  
at our desks or  
in policy-makers'  
offices, with non-  
violent confrontations  
and creative public  
engagement  
activities,  
Greenpeace  
will continue to  
campaign for a  
safer climate, a  
clean environment  
and a better future,  
with more jobs,  
more opportunities  
and more equality.**



## news from around the world

### SPAIN



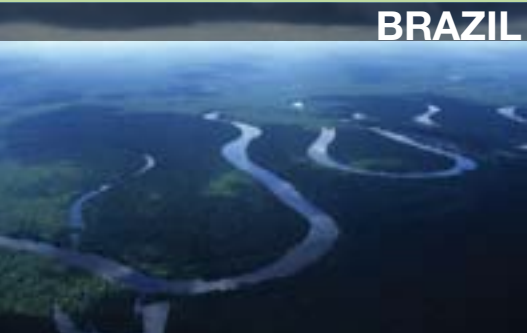
The day before ministers gathered in one of Spain's main fishing hubs to discuss EU fisheries policy reform, Greenpeace activists hung banners at the Tower of Hercules in A Coruña, urging 'EU: Save Our Oceans'. Greenpeace is calling for the reformed Common Fisheries Policy to include substantial fleet reduction targets, expansion of protected marine reserves and a focus on science and transparency. Despite a collapse of European fish stocks and decades of promises to reduce capacity, Spain's industrial fishing fleet has actually grown, fuelled by EU subsidies and short-sighted Spanish policies.

### CANADA



The Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement was unveiled by 21 member companies of the Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) and nine leading environmental organisations. The unprecedented agreement applies to 72 million hectares of public forests and when fully implemented will conserve significant areas of Canada's vast Boreal Forest and protect threatened woodland caribou. Under the agreement FPAC members – who manage two-thirds of all certified forest land in Canada – commit to the highest environmental standards of forest management within an area twice the size of Germany.

### BRAZIL



Greenpeace congratulated Brazilian soya traders in early July, for helping to protect the Amazon and reduce global climate change. They had extended, for a further year, a moratorium on buying soya from newly deforested areas. Pressure from global food giants like McDonalds and Carrefour helped bring about the soya moratorium in 2006, and these companies reaffirmed their support and their commitment that they will not sell products containing soya linked to Amazon destruction.

### EUROPE



Strong legislation followed a 10 year Greenpeace campaign, when the European Parliament voted overwhelmingly in July in favour of a law banning illegal timber from one of the world's biggest markets. Since launching its campaign to eliminate illegal logging a decade ago, scores of Greenpeace activists have put their lives at risk to blockade ports, halt wood shipments and go undercover to expose illegal logging in the Amazon, Central Africa, Russia and Southeast Asia.

### INDONESIA



The Greenpeace report '*How Sinar Mas is Pulping the Planet*' showed how major international companies are driving the destruction of Indonesia's rainforests and carbon-rich peatlands by sourcing paper from Asia Pulp and Paper (APP), part of the notorious Sinar Mas group; several companies cancelled their contracts as a result of the exposé, and others have now set up phase-out plans. Indonesian President Yudoyono's new commitments to reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation (Indonesia ranks as the world's third largest emitter) will be undermined, unless he extends a moratorium on new deforestation licences to cover all forest and peatlands currently slated for destruction by Sinar Mas and other companies.



# The *Rainbow Warrior* needs you!

Please donate today and help Greenpeace build the world's first purpose-built environmental campaigning ship - the new *Rainbow Warrior*.



Greenpeace doesn't accept donations from governments and corporations, so we depend on people like you to keep afloat.

## How the new Rainbow Warrior will make a difference:

As part of her role the new *Rainbow Warrior* will work at the front line to:

- **Promote clean, green energy** - blocking coal shipments and launching activists to draw attention to the desperate need for a global revolution in renewable energy.
- **Protect our forests** - she will track illegal shipments of timber, collecting the evidence needed to prosecute rogue companies and bring about tougher government regulations.
- **Defend our oceans** - her helicopter carrying facilities will enable us to spot illegal fishing operations from miles and bring criminals to justice, and work towards establishing marine reserves.

**DONATE NOW!** Please see overleaf for more information about how you can help.

## Dear friends

It was with very great sadness that we learned, during the production of this issue, of the deaths of Jim Bohlen and Dorothy Stowe, two of Greenpeace's treasured founding members. Our heartfelt thoughts go out to the Bohlen and Stowe families, and our enduring thanks to Jim and to Dorothy.

We know that Dorothy, in particular, was a reader of *The Quarterly* (her daughter, Barbara, is also a regular guest contributor to this magazine). We hope that this issue would have lived up to her expectations, and we hope that you have also enjoyed this *Rainbow Warrior* themed *Quarterly*.

If you have any feedback, suggestions or comments that you would like to share, please write to us at the following address:

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We want to bring you the very best in *The Quarterly*, so please do tell us what you enjoy and what you would like to see more of.

*Karen*  
and  
*Steve*

## Breaking News!

### Unjust sentence for Japanese anti-whaling activists

On 6 September, our two anti-whaling activists Junichi Sato and Toru Suzuki stood in court in Tokyo. They have exposed widespread corruption in Japan's whaling programme and in return, they have been handed a 12 month jail sentence, suspended for three years.

We are appealing this totally unjust, politically motivated sentence. Our activists are always prepared to take responsibility for their actions, and standing up in court for what we believe in is often a result of taking appropriate, peaceful action. However, it is unacceptable for the authorities to ignore human rights and freedom of expression.

We will bring you more news from Japan in the next issue.

Ring the  
changes!

Help build  
the new  
*Rainbow  
Warrior*



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Quarterly 2010.2

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With thanks to: Suzette Jackson, Anita Lee, Dietlind Lerner, Michael Tritt.

Printed on 100% recycled post-consumer waste  
with vegetable-based inks.

JN 350

Published by Greenpeace International  
Ottho Heldringstraat 5, 1066 AZ Amsterdam,  
The Netherlands  
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to change attitudes and behaviour,  
to protect and conserve the environment  
and to promote peace.**

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Design: Brandmad Frog

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